

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 IGA-01

L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

EB-07 MC-02 COME-00 ACDA-05 /062 W

----- 103628

R 100826Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8753

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1565

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KS

SUBJECT: CONTINUED SOUTH KOREAN INTEREST IN PURCHASE GENERAL
DYNAMICS F-16 AIRCRAFT

REF: SEOUL 1048

1. GEORGE DURR, FAR EASTERN CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVE,
GENERAL DYNAMICS CORPORATION, ON MARCH 7, 1975 PAID
AMBASSADOR COURTESY CALL AND BRIEFED EMBASSY ON HIS
ACTIVITIES ON BEHELF OF F-16 FIGHTER SALES IN THE REPUBLIC
OF KOREA. DURR STATED THAT HE WAS CONTACTED IMMEDIATELY
AFTER THE US AIR FORCE DECISION TO PURCHASE THE F-16
VICE THE YF-17 BY KOREA TACOMA MARINE INDUSTRIES (FTMI).
LATTER FIRM OFFERED TO ACT AS GENERAL DYNAMICS F-16 AGENTS,
CLAIMED ROK GOVERNMENT MANDATE FOR AGENT ROLE, AND STATED
ROK MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (MND) LOOKING FOR FIRM
F-16 DELIVERY COMMITMENTS BY LATE 1979.

2. WEEK OF MARCH 3-8 WAS DURR'S SECOND TRIP AND HE STATED
MEETINGS WITH TOP-LEVEL MND PLANNERS AMPLIFIED KTMI'S
ORIGINAL ASSURANCES THAT ROK DETERMINED SECURE EARLY
DELIVERY OF F-16. DURR HAS AVOIDED ANY GENERAL DYNAMICS
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COMMITMENTS AND HAS NOT ENCOURAGED MND TO THINK ALONG LINES

OF F-16 CO-PRODUCTION WHICH THEIR PLANNING ENVISIONS
BEGINNING IN 1983.

3. DURR PLANS RETURN IN TWO WEEKS FOR MORE SUBSTANTIAL
DISCUSSIONS ON F-16 SALES AND WILL REQUEST BRIEFING TEAM
IN ABOUT THREE MONTHS' TIME IF ROK RETAINS ENTUSIASM
FOR EARLY DELIVERY. GENERAL DYNAMICS WILL KEEP EMBASSY VIA
JUSMAG-KOREA CONTACTS FULLY ADVISED OF ALL ITS
ACTIVITIES IN ROK AND WILL REQUEST USG GUIDANCE AS ROK MND
DEFINES ITS F-16 INTEREST.
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Message Attributes

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